UNITED NATIONS

ST

Secretariat

ST/IC/1997/27
7 May 1997

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

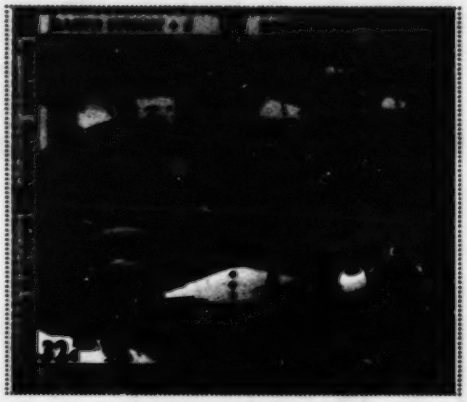
To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Conference and Support Services

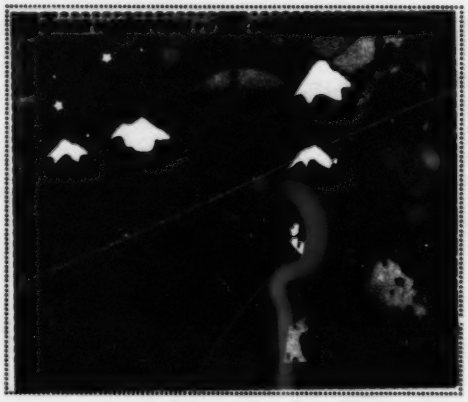
Subject: FIRST DAY OF ISSUE: EARTH SUMMIT + 5 STAMPS, SOUVENIR SHEETS AND MAXIMUM CARDS

Stamps

1. On Friday, 30 May 1997, the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue a set of three commemorative stamps on the theme "Earth Summit + 5", to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Each sheet of 24 stamps will accommodate six se-tenant blocks of four stamps. The stamp designs were created by Peter Max (United States of America).



US$ 0.32



Sw F 0.45

S 3.50

(United States equivalents - Sw F 0.45 (block of four): US$ 1.26; S 3.50 (block of four): US$ 1.30 - subject to exchange rate fluctuation)

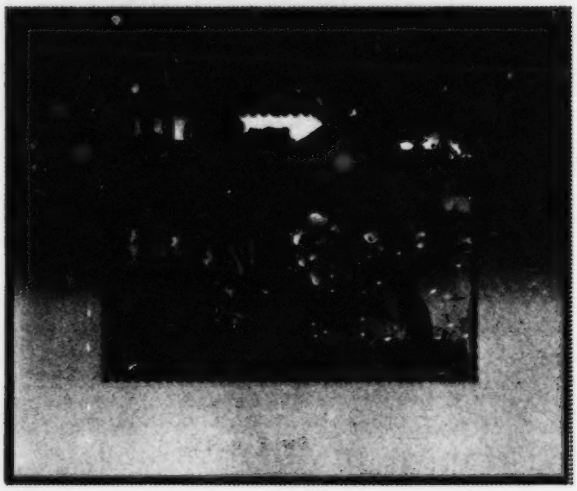
Souvenir sheets

2. On the same date, UNPA will issue a set of four souvenir sheets also on the theme "Earth Summit + 5". This issue will include a dollar-denominated souvenir sheet overprinted to commemorate the Pacific 97 World Philatelic Exhibition to be held in San Francisco, California. Like the stamps, the souvenir sheet designs were created by Peter Max.

US$ 1.00

US$ 1.00
(overprinted)

Sw F 1.10



S 11

(United States equivalents - Sw F 1.10: US$ 0.77; S 11: US$ 1.02 - subject to exchange rate fluctuation)

Maximum cards

3. The fifteenth set of maximum cards will also be issued on 30 May 1997. Three different cards will be produced to accommodate the three se-tenant blocks of four stamps being issued. The appropriate se-tenant blocks of stamps will be affixed and cancelled first day of issue relevant to the respective office. The maximum card cancelled United Nations New York or San Francisco will sell for $1.58. The card cancelled United Nations Geneva is priced at $1.56, while the card cancelled United Nations Vienna is priced at $1.60 (subject to exchange rate fluctuations). There will be no maximum cards for the souvenir sheets.

San Francisco cancellation, 30 May 1997

4. For one day only, 30 May 1997, the United States Postal Service has agreed to allow the United Nations to provide first-day cancellations of the commemorative stamps and souvenir sheets in dollar denominations of the "Earth Summit + 5" issue in San Francisco. First-day covers bearing this cancellation will be available from the UNPA sales counters.

1997 endangered species annual collection

5. UNPA will release the 1997 endangered species annual collection folder on 30 May 1997. The specially designed album will devote separate pages to each of the 12 endangered species issued on stamps by UNPA on 13 March 1997. The album will contain information in English, French and German and will be beautifully highlighted with an array of colourful photographs of the species. The mint edition of the folder will include the 12 endangered species stamps not affixed inside the album, although spaces and mounts are provided for that purpose. The cancelled edition of the folder will have the stamps affixed and cancelled first day of issue, 13 March 1997, in New York, Geneva or Vienna, as appropriate. Each of the folders will sell for $7.61, subject to exchange rate fluctuation.

General information

6. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, San Francisco, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first-day cachets only.

7. Members of delegations and the staff may obtain the new stamps, postal stationery and first-day covers on Friday, 30 May, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) The counter at the north end of the Secretariat lobby from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.;

(c) The counter outside the cafeteria in the DC1 building from 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

8. First-day-of-issue cancellations can be obtained at the following temporary United States Postal Service substations:

(a) The counter outside the United Nations Bookstore in the concourse of the General Assembly Building from 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) The counter along the west wall of the north end of the Secretariat North Lobby from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

9. Information on United Nations stamps can be accessed on the Internet at http://www.un.org/Depts/UNPA.